



2005 Annual Report

Edisto-Savannah Area Meeting

The Barnwell District hosted the 2005 Fall Edisto-Savannah Area Meeting at Clemson University's Edisto Research and Education Center in Blackville, S.C.

A field tour consisted of an overview of their Precision Ag Program by Dr. Ahmad Khalilian, a Cotton Entomology Research Update by Sam Turnipseed, and Fescue Establishment and Land Restoration by Dr. Larry Olson.

Some attendees toured the Agricultural Heritage Museum after the business meeting.



◀ Technology is now available that conserves water by improving the efficiency of irrigation systems.



Board of Commissioners



◀ (Commissioners from left to right): T.O. Sanders, III (Vice-Chairman), Associate Samuel Bush, Brenda H. Nettles, Rebecca H. Davis (Secretary/Treasurer), Dick Sprawls, and James Riley Hill (Chairman).

2005 Cooperator of the Year



2005 Cooperator of the Year - Jason Still on his beef cattle farm.

Each year, the Barnwell Conservation District awards a farmer or landowner for their outstanding conservation efforts. The District selected Jason Still as the recipient of the 2005 Cooperator of the Year award.

Jason, along with his father Merrice, have implemented conservation practices on their beef cattle farm. Cross-fencing, stockwater tanks, and the placement of crushed stone on areas heavily used by livestock are practices applied to improve grazing lands on Still's farm. These practices, combined with a rotational grazing system, enhance livestock production while improving soil and water quality.

The District appreciates Jason's commitment to farming and natural resource conservation.

"Storage Ponds hold waste from confined animal operations until it can be applied on adjacent cropland or pastureland in a safe manner."



Mulched area around Waste Storage Pond



Denny Bailey's constructed Waste Storage Pond for his dairy operation

Waste Storage Ponds keep manure nutrients from polluting your farm's streams, ponds, and downstream waters.



Landowner Danny Creech completed thinning and prescribed burning on his pine stand. Thinning and burning increases the growth of the trees and allows vegetation for wildlife. Prescribed burning reduces the fuel that feeds wildfires.



The above photo shows recently thinned pines on W.S. Morris' property. Once the trees are thinned, prescribed burning should be introduced for protection and for growth of wildlife vegetation.

The District encourages landowners to implement these two practices. Prescribed burning should be conducted under the supervision of a Certified Prescribed Fire Manager. The SC Forestry Commission may be consulted for advice and assistance.

Phil Sandifer & Sons Farms uses terraces and contour farming to provide row alignment for drip irrigation as well as erosion control in field to be planted to truck crops. Drip irrigation provides water as the plants need it rather than in big doses that risk runoff. It improves water quality because no excess water runs off carrying nutrients and chemicals.

Rye planted in strips also help to protect young plants from wind and being blasted by soil particles.



(Above photo▲) Constructed wetland on William B. Gillam's property provides habitat and water for ducks, wildlife, reptiles, amphibians, and microscopic organisms.

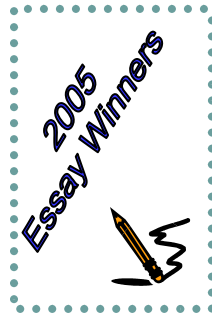
Gillam's wetlands, which had been previously altered, were restored under the Wetland Reserve Program.

This property was enrolled in the Wetland Reserve Program with a conservation easement which means it will be protected permanently.

“Celebrate Conservation”



Fifth grade— (Left to right): Jacob Brumit (1st place), Daniel Greene (2nd place), and Roy Still (3rd place) - Barnwell Elementary students.



Sixth grade—J. Davis Hair (1st place), Molly Mills (2nd place), and Tyler Davis (3rd place). Barnwell Elementary students.



Seventh grade—Jacqueline Gray (1st place), Rachael Beasley (2nd place), and Niles Lewis (3rd place). Guinyard-Butler Middle School students.

The 2005 Essay and Poster Contests were titled “Celebrate Conservation”.

Student essays could highlight the benefits conservation has brought to Barnwell County, tell how conservation has improved the lives of people, or tell how farmers and many homeowners are making progress in the protection of natural resources.

The contest was open to students in grades 5-8 in Barnwell County schools.

The District awarded a \$25 check, trophy, and certificate to all first place winners in each grade level. Second and third place winners received a trophy and certificate.



Eighth grade—Paige Martin (1st place winner). Guinyard-Butler Middle School.

2005 Poster Contest Winners



Cindy Lambert's Kindergarten Class
(First place in K-1st division)
Barnwell Primary School

The 2005 Poster contest was provided by the District to promote conservation.

The posters were a class effort and demonstrated the talents of the students.

The classes of Ms. Lambert and Ms. Sharp were awarded a \$30 check from the Barnwell District. The District received a total of 41 posters.



Julie Sharpe's Third Grade Class
(winner in grades 2nd-4th division)
Barnwell Primary School

Barnwell County students learn about South Carolina's Wildlife



(Above photos): Barnwell Primary School—Students studying wildlife habitats and tracks after learning about South Carolina's wildlife from the District's PowerPoint presentation.



◀ *Blackville-Macedonia Students get some help matching wildlife to their habitats from District Administrative Assistant Linda Pickering.*



DNR Program Coordinator Harry Doswell assisted the Barnwell District by narrating two PowerPoint presentations on South Carolina Wildlife for second grade students at Barnwell Primary School.



Blackville-Macedonia's third grade students enjoyed making edible soil profiles and learning about soil from the District's S.K. Worm presentation.



Administrative Assistant Linda Pickering assisted 4-H Leaders Shannon Herndon & Judy Furtick at Edisto Research during Soil Science Study Week. Pickering gave four PowerPoint presentations on soils featuring NRCS' "S.K. Worm" and assisted students in making soil profiles and animal prints from wet soil.



Carolina Coastal Adventure Delegates

Left to right - Nicholas Still (10th grade) and Joseph Beasley (9th grade) from Barnwell High School.

The Barnwell District sponsored Henry Nicholas Still, III and Joseph R. Beasley in the 2005 Carolina Coastal Adventure Workshop. Both delegates are from Barnwell High School.

The Carolina Coastal Adventure Workshop was open to all 9th and 10th grade students who were interested in exploring the water resources of the Palmetto State. The workshop was held at Santee Cooper's Somerset facility on Lake Moultrie in Pinopolis, S.C.

Delegates in the Carolina Coastal Adventure learn about what keeps our water supplies clean, our rivers healthy, and our marine resources thriving. Over a weekend in November, delegates visit the Cooper River, canoe in a swamp, ride on an ocean research vessel, trawl the harbor, hear stories around a bonfire, and many other fun and exciting activities. Students make new friends from all across the state.

Applications are available through school guidance offices and the Conservation District offices during August.



Blackville-Macedonia Elementary School

Students in Ms. Holiday's after school program studied the water cycle through the District's "Incredible Journey" program. After a brief presentation on the water cycle and how important it is to keep our water clean, the Blackville-Macedonia students imagined themselves as a water molecule and traveled to different stations (clouds, river, lake, underground, etc.) to help them simulate the water cycle. Students described the incredible journey as a water drop-let through creative stories of their own and shared them with the class.

The Water Cycle



Fifth grade students ponder where to travel in the water cycle.

Bronze (\$50)

Adam's Nursery
AgSouth Farm Credit
Anderson Oil Company, Inc.
Barnwell Service Center
Duratex Chem-Nuclear Systems LLC
Enterprise Bank
Gene Nix
J & K Farms
Jack H. Keel
Salkehatchie Coon Hunters Association
SCANA/SC Electric & Gas Company
Scott Woodlands
Stephan Wiles
T.O. Sanders, III
The Mosteller Law Firm
Town of Blackville
Wildwood Garden Club

Silver (\$75)

Berley's Pharmacy
Excel Comfort Systems
First Citizens Bank

Gold (\$100)

CFP Enterprises LLP
Clariant Corporation
Edisto Electric Cooperative
National Beverage Screen Printers, Inc.

We would like to thank our 2005 Affiliate Members for their donations and interest in conservation. Your contributions help us to continue the work we do.

The Board of Commissioners

The District's technical staff provides assistance to landowners, businesses and individuals. If you would like more information regarding activities and programs available through the Barnwell Soil and Water Conservation District, please contact us at (803)259-7144. There are no fees for our services.



(From left to right): Harry Doswell (DNR-Program Coordinator), Mike Lott (NRCS-Acting District Conservationist), Tommy Smoak (NRCS-Conservation Technician), and Linda Pickering (District's Administrative Assistant).



Chaplain - Rev. Frederick B. Orr

Serving the Barnwell District since
February 18, 2003.



Barnwell Soil & Water Conservation
District
100 Fuldner Rd.
Barnwell, SC 29812

Phone: 803-259-7144
Fax: 803-259-2400
E-mail:
linda.pickering@sc.nacdnet.net

Address:

The United States Department of Agriculture and the Conservation District prohibit discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, and marital or family status. The USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.

AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP FORM

The Commissioners of the Barnwell Soil and Water Conservation District are committed to helping Educate Barnwell County's children and landowners about our natural resources. It is our goal that land-users and students develop an understanding of inter-relationships of man, water, soil, air and wildlife.

The Barnwell District is a *non-profit organization* that depends on financial support from Affiliate Members. Through your donation, the District is better able to promote conservation in all schools in the county and sponsor the various programs available to promote conservation stewardship within Barnwell County.

____ Bronze (\$50)

____ Silver (\$75)

____ Gold (\$100)

____ Platinum (\$200 or more)

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE/FAX